THE BILL GOES FORWARD.

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

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[*The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles.*]

Notes and News.

The Bill Goes Forward.

"The prospects of the Bill are improving daily," writes a leading member of Parliament who is well able to register the movements of opinion in the House of Commons. Similar evidence comes to us from many quarters. It is recognised by all that a new franchise qualification there must be. Even those extremists who are still fighting against the Suffrage for more men and for any women, declare that the members of His Majesty's Forces should receive the vote by right of this new qualification. Our old foes, the Antis, now so sparse a little company, are preparing a last ditch in which to succumb. More accurately we ought, perhaps, to say two last ditches, and possibly by next week the number of ditches may be increased. The one last ditch was to have been a Referendum. Now they ask for not less than two Referenda: one to the male electors (whether the present or the potential electors by the terms of this Bill they do not specify), and the second to the women who are to become voters. Or, possibly, the order of these Referenda may be reversed according to the plan by which the Antis think they can best work the Oracle. Should Delphi persist in replying, "Votes for Women," the Anti-Suffragist interrogators will doubtless press to be allowed to continue putting their queries *ad infinitum*. Unluckily for these hopes, the Government has already refused to try any such constitutional experiment as a Referendum at the present busy moment. Meantime, the Bill is making headway which is extraordinarily rapid, considering how large is the scope of the measure and how many are the questions which it raises. But Parliament recognises that to the majority of these questions fair and generous replies must be made. In another part of this week's paper our readers will find a summary of events in the House since the Representation of the People Bill entered the Committee stage.

"Unchanged in Ideals."

The cause of Women's Suffrage has had—and, fortunately, still possesses—many loyal and brilliant supporters among the members of the Irish Parliamentary parties. Few of these have been more valued in life and more truly mourned in death than Mr. William Redmond, M.P. As Mr. Asquith well said in his speech last Monday: "Few men that I have known who have lived well on into middle life remained from first to last so entirely unchanged in temperament, in character, in ideals. He never swerved by a hair's-breadth from the mission to which he had devoted himself from his earliest youth." His cause, as we know, was that of the Irish Nationalists. But it sprang, as Mr. Asquith said, from a "passionate love of liberty," which "was not limited in its range to his own country or his own race." On many occasions this passionate love of liberty led Mr. Redmond to give his voice and vote to the furtherance of the freedom of women.

Short Memories.

The Morning Post, one of the very few London newspapers which endeavour to support the failing Anti-Suffragist cause, is obliged to have recourse to many hopeless arguments. Forgetting that its Anti-Suffragist friends are exclaiming in large paid advertisements that the franchise truce was broken by women's demand for the Suffrage, it said only the other day (June 6th): "Let it be remembered that the question of giving the franchise to all sailors and soldiers of full age was the origin of the whole electoral reform scheme." If *The Morning Post* is correct, Anti-Suffragists will perceive that they were wrong in declaring that the re-opening of the franchise question was due to the Women's Suffrage organisations. When, however *The Morning Post* goes on to declare that "the Government had no right whatever to exceed their authority and to introduce vast changes in the franchise, including the grant of the franchise to women," it seems necessary to remind the journal that its recollection of the origin of the electoral reform scheme does not tally with the utterances of the Prime Minister (Mr. Asquith) who invited the Speaker and his colleagues to draft their scheme, or with the Speaker's summary of events as embodied in his subsequent report. In this report the Speaker specially quotes Mr. Asquith's statement that the Parliament which might be called upon to deal with reconstruction problems ought to have an electoral basis which would make it "reflective and representative of the general opinion of the country." The Speaker also mentions Women's Suffrage in this report among the subjects with which he evidently considered the Conference was called upon to deal. If Mr. Asquith, Mr. Walter Long, the Speaker, and the Speaker's Conference all acted without authority in promoting a scheme for general franchise reform, Mr. Lloyd George's Government might have rectified their error. Yet Mr. Lloyd George's Government has carried out Mr. Asquith's recent resolution by bringing in a Bill based on the proposals of the Speaker's Conference. Then, surely, if *The Morning Post* is correct, the House of Commons would refuse to aid two Governments which are acting *ultra vires*. But no! The House of Commons has already carried the Bill on Second Reading by an enormous majority. Whose authority, then, can it be that Ministers and members, and the Speaker himself, have all contravened? Is it the authority simply of *The Morning Post*—the same dignified organ which has lately said that if Samson were to be robbed of his locks by Delilah, it could wish for a more "personable Delilah" than the woman of over thirty.

A few of the many greetings received by Mrs. Fawcett on her birthday, including one from the Lord Mayor "on behalf of the citizens of London," will be found on pages 112 and 113.

Representation of the People Bill.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6TH.

The House of Commons entered on the Committee stage of the Representation of the People Bill.

Instructions to the Committee, put down in the names of various Members of the House, were first considered. Eight of these were at once ruled out of order by Mr. Speaker, including one in the name of COLONEL SIR ROBERT WILLIAMS (*West Dorset*) for omitting Clause 4 (*i.e.*, the Women's Suffrage Clause) and considering it as a separate Bill.

The ninth instruction stood in the name of SIR FREDERICK BANBURY (*City of London*), and proposed that the Bill should be divided into two Bills—one dealing with redistribution and the other with franchise.

MR. R. MCNEILL (*St. Augustine's*) complained that redistribution was being decided by Executive decree of the Home Secretary. COLONEL SANDERS (*Bridgwater*) said that the House ought to have an opportunity of considering whether area as well as population was to be considered in redistribution.

THE HOME SECRETARY, SIR GEORGE CAVE (*Kingston*), said that the House would have an opportunity for discussing the redistribution proposals in detail on June 11th. The House had already shown its general approval of the Bill, and he had been assured by those who opposed it that there would be nothing like a factious opposition to it.

LORD HUGH CECIL (*Oxford University*) objected to the Government's proposal for discussing the whole redistribution scheme in one day.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE COLONIES (MR. WALTER LONG) (*Strand*), said that without a certain amount of self-suppression on the part of Members, it would be difficult to pass the Bill, which was not a Government Bill in the ordinary sense of the word, and was not as difficult to understand as represented.

CAPTAIN SIR OWEN PHILLIPS (*Chester*) and MR. RAWLINSON (*Cambridge University*) supported the instruction, which was, however, thrown out in the division by 217 votes to 65—Government majority 152.

A large number of other instructions were then ruled out of order, and the House went into Committee with MR. WHITELEY (*Halifax*) in the Chair.

CLAUSE 1.

COLONEL GRETTON (*Rutland*) and LORD HUGH CECIL moved amendments to take out the word "man" in the first Clause of the Bill and put in the word "person."

LORD HUGH CECIL said that his reason for moving this was that he thought that the franchise should be the same for women as for men.

The CHAIRMAN ruled that the right moment at which to bring forward this proposal would be in the discussion on Clause 4, which could be extended or narrowed as the House desired.

There was then a discussion on the age of men voters, as to which no particulars had been stated in the Bill. SIR GEORGE CAVE proposed a verbal addition to Clause 1, which was agreed to.

LORD HUGH CECIL moved an Amendment designed to secure that the qualification for the Parliamentary franchise should be the same as for the Local Government franchise. This was rejected without a division.

SIR FREDERICK BANBURY moved an Amendment designed to restore the ownership vote. In the course of the discussion on this, Sir George Cave said that the recommendations of the Speaker's Conference were in the nature of a compromise and must be looked at as a whole. The amendment was rejected by 228 votes to 35—majority 193.

After this there was a discussion as to the exact terms of the residence qualification.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7TH.

The discussion on the residence qualification continued, the object, on the one hand, being to prevent "swallow voters"—*i.e.*, persons coming to stay in a constituency simply for the purpose of voting there during an election—and, on the other, not to allow the number of genuine voters to be too much narrowed down by an excessive strictness about the residence qualification.

SIR GEORGE CAVE tried to overcome this difficulty by moving an amendment, which was agreed to on the understanding that the question should be reopened on the Report Stage.

SIR FREDERICK BANBURY moved an amendment to treat the administrative County of London as a Parliamentary borough, but this was negatived.

After some further discussion, the House divided on Clause 1, which was carried by 184 votes to 14, a majority of 170.

MONDAY, JUNE 11TH.

A motion by SIR GEORGE CAVE, approving the instructions, given to Boundary Commissioners with regard to redistribution, paved the way for a long discussion on the question whether area ought not to be considered as well as population, and whether therefore the comparatively thinly peopled agricultural districts ought not to have a somewhat larger representation than the number of their inhabitants would otherwise warrant. An amendment in this sense, moved by COLONEL SANDERS, opposed by MR. HEMMERDE (*Norfolk, N.W.*) and MR. GOLDSTONE (*Sunderland*), was recognised by SIR GEORGE CAVE as having a certain validity.

The HOME SECRETARY assured COLONEL SANDERS that the Commissioners should be given authority to deal in no hard and fast spirit with special cases.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

The subject was introduced by COLONEL SIR HERBERT JESSEL (*St. Pancras, South*), asking that a clause be inserted providing that the Commissioners should "act on the assumption that Proportional Representation is not adopted." He considered that Proportional Representation had not "been discussed either in the House or in the country to anything like the same extent as female suffrage," which had "been before the House and before the constituencies for a great many years." He expressed his antagonism to Proportional Representation in a speech of considerable length, and found a seconder in MR. BURDETT COUTTS (*Westminster*).

The discussion was interrupted by a motion for adjournment, and, when resumed later, was soon brought to a conclusion by the 11 o'clock rule.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12TH.

The discussion on Colonel Jessel's amendment was resumed.

MR. C. ROBERTS (*Lincoln*) said that the objection made to Proportional Representation by those who thought it would divide members of the House into groups and give undue prominence to cranks and fanatics and people of one idea, was not born out by its history in other nations, but that he did think it would give a much better chance to "candidates of the cross-bench type of mind." It became more necessary when there were more than two parties in the State, and this was the justification for trying it first in the large industrial and urban centres where there were two or three parties anxious for representation.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, SIR F. E. SMITH (*Liverpool, Walton*), supported Proportional Representation as a practical measure already in force in various democratic communities. He also dwelt on the great importance of preserving intact the concordat arrived at by the Speaker's Conference. In the course of his remarks he said that he had unswervingly opposed Women's Suffrage in the past and was still opposed to it, but that he recognised that the whole perspective had changed, and that the arguments he and his friends had used in the past were no longer effective. He recognised another weightier argument in the industrial situation of the future. "There is in front of us the prospect of a new industrial strife, and more and more, owing to the wasted power of our male population, women must become active competitors, and it would be hard that they should have to enter this struggle in circumstances in which their male competitors have the vote with all that that means and that they should not have it."

SIR F. LOWE (*Edgbaston*), MR. S. ROBERTS (*Sheffield*) spoke against Proportional Representation on the ground that it was complicated and impracticable.

MR. LESLIE SCOTT (*Liverpool, Exchange*) supported it on the ground that no country which had ever adopted it had gone back on it.

SIR GEORGE REID (*St. George's, Hanover Square*) said there were other methods of securing the representation of minorities. Proportional Representation was an experiment, and it should be left to the new electorate, which would be created by the Bill, to decide whether they would adopt it.

MR. HERBERT SAMUEL (*Cleveland*) dwelt on the dangers and difficulties of the large constituencies which would have to be created in order to carry out Proportional Representation. In such constituencies he thought it would be very difficult for electors to keep any watch on their M.P.s. They could only do so through the Press, and this would increase the power of the Press. He was in favour of the experiment being tried in a limited way, but not in London.

MR. HAYES FISHER (*Fulham*) declared himself a root and branch opponent of Proportional Representation, which he thought would drive all decent people out of the House of

Commons. LORD HUGH CECIL, on the other hand, said that the House would be regenerated and strengthened by people being allowed to vote for those they agreed with, and that the freedom of the individual and the stability of our political life would be protected.

After some further discussion the House divided, and the amendment securing that the Boundary Commissioners should act on the assumption that Proportional Representation was not to be adopted was carried by 149 votes to 141—a majority of 8 against the principle of Proportional Representation.

Later in the evening the effect of redistribution on Scotland was considered. MR. EUGENE WASON (*Clackmannan and Kinross*) moved an Amendment designed to secure that Scotland should retain her seventy-two members, even if the population had temporarily declined. Other Scottish Members took the same view.

THE SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND, MR. MUNRO (*Wick Burghs*) warned them that the effect might be to stereotype the representation of Scotland at seventy-two and prevent increase. The amendment was negatived.

SIR GEORGE YOUNGER (*Ayr Burghs*) then moved an amendment with the object of making the Boundary Commissioners take into account the probable increase of population as well as the actual population of various districts, especially places whose population had been specially and artificially increased by the war.

THE SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND pointed out the difficulties of making a general recommendation to the Commissioners on this subject, but promised that careful consideration should be given to special cases; and this was agreed to by the House.

There remains only one amendment to the instructions to the Boundary Commissioners to be disposed of before the House resumes the consideration of the Bill in Committee.

Business for next week: Clauses II., III., and IV.

CLAUSE 3.

Early next week the debate on the Committee stage of the Representation of the People Bill will be resumed. Clause 2 [University franchise (men)], to which there are seven amendments at present proposed, is not likely to raise a very prolonged discussion in the House, the opponents of University representation being, on the whole, far more disposed to accept the Speaker's Conference in a spirit of compromise than are its supporters.

Clause 3, however [Local Government franchise (men)], raises a great many important points, which should be very carefully studied. The fate of this clause is particularly important to Suffragists, since it is proposed that the basis of women's political enfranchisement should be the local government register, and any change made in Clause 3 will have an important bearing on Clause 4 [franchises (women)].

There are at present thirty-two amendments suggested to this clause, of which two have great importance.

The first, standing in the name of Mr. MacCallum Scott, is intended to limit the application of the clause to England and Wales.

It will be remembered that the Speaker's Conference Report, VI. (c), is as follows:—The Conference makes no recommendation with regard to the Local Government franchise in Scotland or Ireland." The Bill, however, disregarding this fact, provides for a new municipal register, uniform throughout the Kingdom, on a basis which is different from that at present in force in Scotland and Ireland and London, and which would disfranchise in those places a number of existing municipal voters, both men and women.

Mr. MacCallum Scott's amendment, taken with subsequent amendments to the schedules of the Bill, would leave Scotland and Ireland as they are at present in the matter of municipal registers, while putting the new proposals into force in England and Wales.

The importance of this will be seen when it is realised that if this is carried, and if Clause 4 is carried as it stands, Scottish and Irish women will have the Parliamentary Franchise on the same basis as Scottish and Irish men, with only the difference of the age limit, while English and Welsh women will have a different basis as well as a different age-limit.

The second amendment of importance is that standing in the name of Mr. Dickinson, and it is one that will be important whether Mr. MacCallum Scott and the Scottish members gain their point or not.

Mr. Dickinson proposes to extend the suggested municipal franchise in so far as to include those lodgers who occupy unfurnished lodgings. He is of opinion that this amendment is in accordance with the findings of the Speaker's Conference on this point, and that the wholesale disqualification of lodgers proposed by the Bill was not their intention.

This amendment, if carried, will greatly improve the basis of the political enfranchisement of women, and it is to be hoped that it will have the support of the majority of the House, and will be accepted by the Government.

RAY STRACHEY.

Another Little Step towards Women's Suffrage in Holland.

The revision of our Constitution, unanimously adopted by the Second Chamber on November 16th, 1916, was carried unanimously by the First Chamber on May 16th, 1917.

It is a partial revision, introducing proportional representation, making women eligible for governing bodies, and giving to the ordinary electoral law the power of enfranchising the women, which is now forbidden by Article 80 of the existing Constitution. So, undoubtedly, Suffragists must regard the revision as a gain, and most of us do, but there are those who feel disappointed at not having at once obtained full political equality for men and women, now that the extraordinary circumstances show the value of women's work and advice.

Revising the Constitution is rather slow work, and the plan to do it was announced by the Premier in September, 1915. The great victories of Women's Suffrage all over the world within the last two years had not yet shown their influence then, and, having once planned eligibility and possible enfranchisement of women, the Premier did not wish to accept amendments demanding their political equality with men. Now, if the members who had introduced them had insisted, there is no telling what change the Second Chamber might have effected; but, as it is, the amendments were withdrawn, and the Revision will make women eligible for the Frst and Second Chambers, for the Provincial States, and for Municipal Councils, and leave it to the law to give them the vote when and on whatever conditions it pleases, provided that these conditions do not include a property qualification.

The Revision has still two stages to pass through before it will be actually on the Statute Book: it has to be adopted by a two-thirds majority in each of the two Chambers, which are to be elected for that special purpose, and the Queen has to sign it and so give it the Royal sanction.

A small fraction of public opinion, led by the biggest daily paper, *Di Telegraaf*, the maker of the present electoral law, M. S. van Houton, and the discontented Suffragists, is trying its utmost to oppose the Revision, but with little chance of success. And yet another danger for the united action of the Woman Suffrage Association comes from a difference in views as to the value and the use to be made of the eligibility of women, once it shall have become law. Some believe that two or three women in the Second Chamber may have there so favourable an influence for the total enfranchisement of their sex that it would be worth all the power of the W.S. Association to make the utmost efforts to get them elected, though we should make all the existing political parties our enemies. On the other hand, others—we may hope a majority—see the danger of splitting up the Association by thus nominating a list of women candidates, and obliging all our members, M.P.s, politicians, or convinced members of political parties, to leave the W.S.A. And with that, although it would not be difficult to get twenty-five electors to sign this women's list, there would be very little chance of getting the 14,000 votes required for a certain seat, or even the 7,000 required for a possible seat in the Second Chamber. Experience of proportional representation, and of lists of women candidates in the Scandinavian countries, may help to enlighten Dutch Suffragists and clear their doubts before their next General Meeting.

Meanwhile, the Dutch Government is making one shy little step forward on the road to political equality for men and women.

MARTINA G. KRAMERS.

Mrs. Fawcett's Birthday Celebrations.

June 11th is a date of very special interest to all members of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, because it is Mrs. Fawcett's birthday. This year she completes seventy years of life and fifty years of public work. This is not the time in which to try to express what those years have meant to women, or what Mrs. Fawcett is to those who follow her—even if this could ever be expressed.

The feeling in many hearts is that no political cause was ever so happy in its leader as we are in ours. It is an added happiness to see her so well and full of vigour. The Suffragists of more than one generation who have had the rare good fortune of working in close personal contact with her, rejoice in the thought that though she has done so much more work than any of us, she is still one of the youngest of us all.

An Address from the Executive Committee N.U.W.S.S.

An address from the Executive Committee and the Chairman of the Federations of the N.U.W.S.S. and the four Societies which have been in existence for fifty years, was presented to Mrs. Fawcett by the Honorary Officers of the Union on the morning of her birthday. The officers made no speeches to Mrs. Fawcett, but she knew what they wanted to say on behalf of the whole Union; for to the whole Union Mrs. Fawcett is much more than a President, or even a leader, she knows it very well. We all hope that the House of Commons may give her a birthday present that will be more eloquent than any speeches.

June, 1917

Dear Mrs. Fawcett,—

We write on behalf of the Federations of Women's Suffrage Societies, and those Societies which have worked under you for fifty years within the National Union, and on behalf of the fifty thousand rank-and-file members, to offer you our best congratulations and sincere wishes for many happy returns of June 11th.

There are some amongst us who think of this particular June 11th as setting a seal on something like fifty years of your co-operation and generalship; others, comparative newcomers in the Suffrage Movement, who think of it rather as bringing the highest hopes that the Movement has ever known. But each one of us thinks of it as a day when we of the National Union may venture to lay aside the attitude of strict impersonality on which we have sometimes prided ourselves, and speak to you not merely of our trust and admiration, but of our deep personal affection.

You have inspired us with a profound desire to be worthy of citizenship, and when we are able to exercise our freedom, it will be made more precious to us because of our memories of your readership in the long struggle to obtain it.

We wish you many years of free citizenship, and we send you our very loving greeting.

LETTICE FISHER,
Chairman, Executive Committee, N.U.W.S.S.

RAY STRACHEY,
Hon. Parliamentary Secretary, N.U.W.S.S.

VIOLET EUSTACE,
Hon. Secretary, N.U.W.S.S.

H. AUERBACH,
Hon. Treasurer, N.U.W.S.S.

HESTER MAY KEMPTHORNE,
President, Central Counties Federation.

EMILY MANNERS,
Chairman of East Midland Federation.

C. DOROTHEA RACKHAM,
President, Eastern Counties Federation.

LILIAN GILCHRIST THOMPSON,
President, Kent Federation.

CAROLINE D. SIMPSON,
Chairman, Manchester and District Federation.

ALMYRA GRAY,
Chairman, North and East Riding Federation.

ETHEL M. N. WILLIAMS,
Chairman, North-Eastern Federation.

CAROLINE MARSHALL,
President, North-Western Federation.

ELEANOR CROSS,
President, Oxon, Berks, and Bucks Federation.

FRANCES H. MELVILLE,
Chairman, Scottish Federation.

J. E. M. LEWIS,
President, South Wales and Monmouth Federation.

KATE COURTNEY OF PENWITH,
President, South-Western Federation.

F. de G. MERRIFIELD,
Chairman, Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation.

ELEANOR F. RATHBONE,
Chairman, West Lancashire, West Cheshire, and North Wales Federation.

SARAH MOORE EDE,
President, West Midlands Federation.

ETHEL M. HARTLAND,
Hon. Secretary, West of England Federation.

ISABELLA O. FORD,
Chairman, West Riding Federation.

MABEL CROSS,
Hon. Secretary, Bristol Society.

SARAH E. SIDDONS MAIR,
President, Edinburgh National Society for Women's Suffrage.

FRANCES BALFOUR,
President, London Society.

SARAH WATERHOUSE,
Chairman, Manchester Society.

A Greeting from the Lord Mayor.

Telegrams and letters of congratulation poured in during the whole day. Among others was the following telegram from the Lord Mayor of London:—

"I send you the best wishes of the citizens of London on this interesting anniversary."—WILLIAM DUNN, *Lord Mayor.*

To this Mrs. Fawcett has sent the following reply:—

"Mrs. Fawcett presents her compliments to the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor, and begs to thank him most sincerely for the honour he has done her in conveying to her the good wishes of the citizens of London upon the seventieth anniversary of her birthday. She greatly values this kind expression of good will."

Early the same morning, the staff of the N.U. office sent Mrs. Fawcett the following letter of congratulation upon her birthday, and flowers gathered from their own gardens:—

We who have the honour of working at the Headquarters of the National Union, and who, therefore, enjoy the added privilege of coming into personal contact with you, desire to add ours to the many greetings you will receive on your birthday, and we wish you many happy returns of June 11th.

We beg you to accept these flowers—picked in our own gardens—in token of our admiration and respect.

Among others who have written or telegraphed to her may be mentioned:—

Sir Frederick Pollock, the Rt. Hon. W. H. Dickinson, M.P., Lady Cowdray, Lady Brassey, Mrs. G. F. Watts, Mr. de Jong, London Editor of *The Amsterdam Handelsblad*, the Staff and Lecturers of Newnham College, Mr. and Mrs. Heitland, of Cambridge, Mr. G. E. Buckle, Mrs. Coit, Mr. Julius Auerbach, Miss Evelyn Sharp, and the United Suffragists.

A Deputation from the London Society.

The deputation from the Committee of the London Society for Women's Suffrage that waited on Mrs. Fawcett on the morning of her birthday, had nothing of a formal character about it. The London Society is one of Mrs. Fawcett's four eldest children (exact rights of primogeniture need not be discussed here!), and Mrs. Fawcett served on its Committee from the beginning till 1912. At that date pressure of work for the whole union forced her to resign her membership of the Committee, but not of course her close ties with it nor with the Society of which she is a member. The present Committee members who had the happiness of going to see her on Monday, felt that they were representing not only themselves, or even the present members, but all the members since 1866. The flowers they carried with them, roses, and carnations and sweet peas, peonies and lupins and love-in-a-mist, not hot-house blooms, but the natural gift of this lovely midsummer month, were not in the least like formal bouquets.

The address, (the text of which will be found below) had a beautiful illuminated form but was not otherwise formal, and the President, Lady Frances Balfour was not formal in presenting it. Of course, no words that could have been spoken, could have expressed *all* the feelings of those who were present, but many of them felt that the chosen words of their President did come as near it as any words could.—Great and happy gratitude to our beloved leader was the note of the occasion.

After the Address had been given and Mrs. Fawcett had herself spoken a few words, Lady Strachey presented a resolution of good wishes from the Branches of the London Society passed at their Quarterly Council a few days earlier. All the members of the Society have had the opportunity in person or in deputy of wishing Mrs. Fawcett "Many happy returns" of the day.

TO MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT on the occasion of her birthday, June 11th, 1917, from her Friends and Colleagues on the Committee of the London Society for Women's Suffrage.

WE, the members of the Committee of the London Society for Women's Suffrage, desire to express to you on this day, which completes the seventieth year of your life, and the fiftieth of your public work for Women's Suffrage, our profound gratitude for the noble service you have rendered not only to that cause itself, but to every movement which has for its object the raising of the status of Women.

We recall the words spoken by you when you first entered upon the work that the proudest title to which you could aspire would be that of the Friend of Women.

Looking back on the many successful efforts for the advancement of women with which your name is closely associated, we recognise that beyond all question that title is yours.

In the Suffrage Movement especially we are convinced that the progress made is largely the result of your wise advocacy of its fundamental prineiples, your statesmanlike handling of its practical fortunes, and your unswerving loyalty to women.

We who have served under your leadership have always drawn inspiration from your indomitable courage under reverses, and your unfaltering faith in ultimate victory.

We rejoice in the hope that an hour is drawing near when the long years of your patient labour will be crowned with success.

Birthday Greeting to Mrs. Henry Fawcett from The London Society for Women's Suffrage, June 11th, 1917.

We, the Delegates from the Branches of the London Society assembled at our Quarterly Council Meeting, desire to express to Mrs. Fawcett, on the anniversary of the fiftieth year of her work, our profound appreciation of the splendid service she has rendered the Women's Suffrage Cause, and our sincere and heartfelt wishes that this year may bring her the reward of her long and faithful efforts on behalf of the enfranchisement of women.

A Message from our President.

To the Authors and Inventors of Last Friday's "Common Cause," and all Who Organised and Carried Out the Demonstration at 2 Gower Street on Monday Last.

Dear Friends,—I find it difficult to express the gratitude and emotion which has been awakened in me by the unbounded kindness, trust, and affection which you have demonstrated by the articles, letters, and poems which form so large a part of last Friday's Common Cause, and by the wonderful demonstration at my home on Monday. I can only use the well-worn words, "I thank you from the bottom of my heart."

My work for Suffrage and other allied causes has been the happiness of my life. Never for a moment has success been doubtful: indeed, from the very beginning, fifty years ago, we have been succeeding all the time. Anyone who will compare the laws, the social customs, and the political status of women fifty years ago with what they are now, will see that this is no exaggeration, but a simple statement of fact. And added to the joy of constantly gaining ground in our public object, I have had the personal, private joy of crowds of able, loyal, generous-minded, self-forgetful fellow-workers. What can anyone want more?

Your faithful and affectionate friend,

Millicent Garrett Fawcett.

WOMEN PATROLS.

Ten thousand women to do patrol work are wanted for all parts of the country. In Central London alone, where 400 Women Patrols are employed, there is a demand for 1,000. In 1916 the Commissioner of Police was impressed by the quiet, useful work done by the Women Patrols started by N.U.W.W. In consequence, he employed them as "auxiliaries" to the Police. They were first employed as an experiment in Hyde Park. They work for four hours, and are paid at the same rate as the constables (7½d. an hour).

The work is done under the direction of the Inspector in charge, and in company with a constable.

The methods adopted are greatly preventive, and the constable always takes the initiative. A timely caution and warning by the constable, supported by a few well-chosen words from the women patrols, are usually sufficient, but when a sterner reproof is needed, the erring couple are taken to the police-station, and they receive either a severe reprimand from the Inspector, or are "charged"; but the Women Patrols are not anxious to secure "charges" so much as to induce the girl to see the error of her ways, and to induce her to think of what it may lead to. If, however, a charge is laid, they have to attend the police-court and give evidence, if required, when the case is taken. So successful has this proved that the Commissioner is now employing full-time Patrols in the same way. They are paid out of the Police Fund at the same rate as the constables, and work for seven hours a day, with an hour off for meals. These are working in Leicester Square, on Hampstead Heath, Hyde Park, and elsewhere.

The First Commissioner of Works is employing Women Patrols as park-keepers in Kensington Gardens. For years social workers have been agitating for such appointments, and will welcome this development with joy. The park-keepers wear a dark blue coat and skirt, a uniform hat, and an armlet with the Royal Arms on it, and have a police-whistle and chain, as a badge of office. They bear the keys of the Park in their charge, and are responsible for the locking of the gates at the proper hour. All this gradual but important development is naturally extremely gratifying to the Women's Patrol Committee, which has been working so steadily for the last two and a-half years.

A message of thanks has been sent by the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, through the Women's Patrol Committee of the N.U.W.W., to Mrs. Catherine Bagster (Patrol No. 174) and Mrs. Annie Morgan (Patrol No. 944) for the assistance rendered by them to a police constable when assaulted by two foreigners on the evening of May 11th, 1917. "The valuable assistance rendered by these two women," says the letter conveying the message, "undoubtedly saved the constable from being roughly handled, and enabled him to secure the arrest of both men, who were subsequently convicted and fined."

PRICES RISE, BUT WAGES——?

Every week prices go up to points higher than the week before. Are women's wages rising in proportion? Most assuredly not. They are rising in many employments, but they rise slowly and jerkily. In the 'eighties of last century £100 a year was regarded as the salary of a highly educated and exceptionally well-qualified woman. At the present day, life on £2 a week for a worker of the professional classes needs very careful planning. Yet a member of the Canadian Parliament, on the Conservative side, has been saying that women in the Dominion Civil Service should on no account be paid more than this bare minimum. Already he considered that they were paid too much, and he adduced by way of proof that they showed no desire to get married. Poverty is hardly the happiest reason for marriage. A much wider view has lately been expressed by Lady Mackworth, who, as an experienced business woman, looks forward to the time when £300 a year will not be regarded as an exceptional salary for a woman of ability. Meantime, it is urgently needful for women of the professional and of the leisured classes to help the industrial workers to get wages which bear some fair relation to the constant increase in their ordinary expenditure.

GIRL'S CLUB WORK.

An interesting display and exhibition was given on Saturday evening at the Guildhall by members of the National Organisation of Girls' Clubs, the performers having been selected by expert judges as the result of local displays held recently, in which each club was allowed to show any kind of hand-work, and to send members skilled in music, acting, or physical exercises. Among the exhibits were examples of many handicrafts, including very creditable specimens of metal work, painting, embroidery, clothing, and cookery. It is noteworthy that while a tailoress contributed a well-designed brass bookstand, a girl in the confectionery trade showed a silk frock of good workmanship, and a shop assistant sent cakes made from her own recipes.

The programme contained a number of songs and recitations, and there were some fine displays of drill. A very spirited performance of the quarrel scene from "Julius Cæsar" was given by two girls from the Mitre Club, E., and "The Maker of Dreams" was well performed by members of the West Centre (Jewish) Girls' Club, the girl who played the leading part showing remarkable talent.

The names of the performers were not given, only the names of the clubs they represented, and there were no prizes, the girls working for the honour of their club, not for their own personal credit.

Club Libraries.

A very interesting development of club work, started on the initiative of the girls themselves, is that of providing libraries. At one of the periodical conferences, at which representatives from clubs all over the country meet, papers were read on the "Tone of the Workroom," and several girls spoke on the bad effect of the printed matter—novelettes and penny stories—read in the workshops. In many cases the girls read these, not because they are the kind of tales they really prefer, but because they have no opportunity of getting anything better, the public libraries being too far from their homes and work places to be of constant use to them.

One girl, in the course of the discussion on factory reading, described an interesting little experiment that she had made in her own workroom. Being very fond of reading, and anxious to read some well-written books, it occurred to her that if several girls clubbed together to buy sevenpenny books, they could soon have a nice little library of their own. At first her idea met with a good deal of ridicule. She was accused of "swank," and most of the girls regarded the little red-covered volumes as something entirely outside their sphere. But one or two of the less prejudiced peeped inside, and became interested. Others followed, till gradually the library idea grew in favour, and remains popular in the factory. This experiment suggested to Mrs. Glover the idea of starting a library for working girls at 5, Little Portland Street, the premises of the Hand in Hand dining centre for working girls. With the aid of friends, a goodly number of volumes have been collected, and Mrs. Glover has put in charge of it a very bright young librarian who hails from High Wycombe School, and who takes a keen interest in the scheme.

A library should be part of every club, and when the books have been read and re-read, a parcel of six novels and two poetry or art books can be borrowed fortnightly from the library at 5, Little Portland Street.

HEAD MISTRESSES IN CONFERENCE.

The Forty-third Annual Conference of the Incorporated Association of Head Mistresses was held on June 8th and 9th at St. Paul's Girls' School, Brook Green, Hammersmith, by kind permission of the Governors of the School, and invitation of the Head Mistress. It was presided over by the President, Miss Escott, Head Mistress of the Sheffield High School, G.P.D.S.T., and Head Mistress-elect of the Clapham High School. Some 250 members were present.

After the Head Mistress, Miss F. R. Gray, had welcomed the Conference, and the transaction of private business, the President delivered her address. She welcomed the appointment as President of the Board of Education of a man of wide educational experience. Mr. Fisher had shown in his speech on April 19th that educational advance was impossible until the nation was prepared to spend more money to enable it to call to its service a much larger and better equipped body of teachers than heretofore. Although better salaries and pensions would do much towards this end, Miss Escott laid stress on the importance of recreation, and said that heads of schools must do their part if teachers, and through them their pupils, were to have more "life." If a teacher was not given the opportunity of being in touch with life and its realities, her teaching must in time suffer. Education was worth little unless it tended to the development of the whole human being, and a teacher who lived her life within the school walls and in uncongenial lodgings, must soon cease to view life as a whole. Times had changed, and there were now far more possibilities for teachers to take part in the civic life around them than was formerly the case, and it was for heads of schools to see that there was both time and opportunity for such participation. If governing bodies and heads would work together to attract to the teaching profession the right type of teacher, a recruiting campaign might be started with good heart; but schemes of reform must remain schemes until they had teachers.

Miss Escott spoke of the need for better opportunities for promising children to pass from elementary into secondary schools.

Touching on the Board of Education's Circular 996, establishing a representative Board to deal with the question of examinations in secondary schools, Miss Escott said that their principal interest was in the scheme of reform for the examinations of girls, which they felt would be urgent in the near future, and Circular 996 made absolutely no provision for the inclusion of women on the Council.

A number of resolutions were passed dealing with (*a*) the teaching profession, (*b*) the pupils in schools, (*c*) the pupils out of school hours.

Under (*b*) were included resolutions approving of the proposals outlined by the President of the Board of Education in his Statement on the Estimates, and urging Parliament to carry with as little delay as possible such measures as may be necessary in order to give them effect.

At the conclusion of the Conference, Miss Escott announced the election of her successor in the presidency for the two ensuing years, Miss Reta Oldham, M.A., of the Streatham Hill High School. Miss Oldham, in acknowledging her election, paid a tribute to Miss Escott for her two years' presidential services to the Association.

WOMEN ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

The following particulars with regard to women on local authorities have been received from the Women's Local Government Society. It will be seen that the number of women serving on local councils is not nearly as large as it ought to be, and that there will be need, before the next municipal elections, for a strenuous campaign to secure the election of a larger number.

Of 62 County Councils, 4 have women members (8 women), 58 have none
Of 80 County Borough Councils, 12 have women members (15 women), 68 have none.
Of 245 Town Councils (non-county boroughs), 10 have women members (10 women), 235 have none.
Of 28 Metropolitan Borough Councils, 11 have women members (24 women), 17 have none.
Of 803 Urban District Councils, 14 have women members (19 women), 789 have none.
Of 652 Rural District Councils, 141 have women members (206 women), 511 have none.
Of 639 Poor Law Unions, 454 have women Guardians (1,585 women), 185 have none.
Of 7,205 Parish Councils, the total number of women serving is unknown.

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On the other hand, it is no less necessary to obtain increasing quantities of Gas from coal by its destructive distillation or "carbonisation"—for coal-tar is a by-product of such carbonisation, and from coal-tar are derived whole series of substances, some of which are essential to the making of high explosives, others to the manufacture of indispensable dyes, drugs, disinfectants, and other valuable commodities: whilst another by-product of gas manufacture is the sulphate of ammonia which is so valuable as a fertiliser of our fields and gardens. From the gas itself, again, more of the raw materials for high explosives are also obtained.

The economic advantages of Gas as a source of heat and power in Industry have been forcibly brought home to us by the experience of the war. It is not too much to say that our requirements of war material—not only armaments and munitions, but clothing and accoutrements, commissariat necessaries, and indeed the whole equipment of the war—could never have been produced in anything approaching the present colossal output had not gaseous supplanted solid fuel in factories and workshops throughout the length and breadth of Britain and America.

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The Reform Bill.

"In considering this question they who oppose it oppose it on different grounds: one is in the nature of a previous question; that some alterations may be expedient, but that this is not the time for making them. The other is that no essential alterations are at all wanting; and that neither *now*, nor at *any* time, is it prudent and safe to be meddling with the fundamental principles and ancient tried usages of our constitution—that our representation is as nearly perfect as the necessary imperfection of human affairs and of human creatures will suffer it to be; and that it is a subject of prudent and honest use and thankful enjoyment, and not of captious criticism and rash experiment."—*Speech by Burke on a motion made in the House of Commons, May 7th, 1782, for a Committee to enquire into the state of the representation of the Commons in Parliament.*

In all the years of Parliamentary history that have passed, and in all the years that are to come, it is a plain sign that an Opposition is defeated when it relies solely and entirely upon prejudice and delay. These are the grounds of opposition to the great new Reform Bill, and, disregarding them, the Bill is pursuing its slow progress, and it is probable that in a very few weeks it will have safely passed the House of Commons.

Clause I. is now approved. The rejection of Proportional Representation is decided, and Clauses II., III., and IV. are about to be taken. The division on this clause, which will be reached early next week, will be the most important division in the history of the struggle for Women's Suffrage. It will be the critical division—we hope the final division—and the votes cast for Women's Suffrage in it will differ from all the previous votes on the subject in that they will be votes meaning business. They will be no academic votes, no votes merely "on principle," but real working votes; and if there are enough of them, Women's Suffrage will be part of a Bill that is going to become law.

We have had plenty of Second Reading successes in the past—fifteen Women's Suffrage Bills have reached that stage, and 3,057 votes have been cast for them. Since 1908, 406 M.P.s have voted in favour of a Women's Suffrage Bill, and of all the members who have cast these votes, many and many a one has been our true friend. Many have worked for us and believed in us, and those of them who are still alive to see the fruit of their faith will vote for us next week. But there have been others, too, others who voted for us easily "on principle" when there was no great fear of the Bill going further. As Burke said in a speech on a Bill for shortening the duration of Parliament: "It is easy to pretend a zeal for liberty. Those who think themselves not likely to be encumbered with the performance of their promises . . . never fail to entertain the most lofty ideas. They are certainly the most specious, and they cost them neither reflection to frame, nor pains to modify, nor management to support. The task is of another nature to those who mean to promise nothing that it is not in their intention, or may possibly be in their power, to perform." The division next week will set this more difficult task. No one who votes for the clause can do it without fully realising that, if carried, it is likely to be at once performed, and the division, therefore, is the most important that our cause has ever seen. No one who is a serious Suffragist will abstain from voting when his vote means victory.

Ray Strachey.

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The Mirror of the Nation, 1831-1917.

By Miss I. B. O'Malley.

Democracy gains confidence as it grows. Each succeeding Reform Bill which has passed into law in Great Britain has enfranchised a larger number of new voters, and each has been received with a diminishing ratio of anxiety by the existing House of Commons and Electorate.

The great Reform Bill of 1832 placed less than half-a-million new voters on the electoral register, yet to those who passed it, and to those who resisted it, it seemed a revolution. It was so, in fact, since it not only took away the exclusive control of government from the land-owning classes, but it broke down the belief that the British Constitution had been fixed once and for all in 1688, and that no further development in it was possible without danger to the stability of national life. For a generation it had been regarded as something like treason even to speak of reform. Men whose minds were darkened by the shadow of the reign of terror in France had believed and preached that the most moderate constitutional change would be an "opening of the flood-gates of revolution." The Duke of Wellington had insisted that the British political system was the most perfect that could be devised by the mind of man. The passion which Lord John Russell's Reform Bill of 1831 evoked in the minds of its defenders and its opponents was proportioned rather to the principles it admitted than to its actual proposals. It seemed so extravagant to the Opposition that on its first introduction they received it with contemptuous laughter.

A graphic letter of Macaulay's describes the division on the Second Reading on March 22nd, 1831. Six hundred and eight members were present, "more by fifty-five than were ever in a division before. . . . The Ayes and Noes were like two volleys of cannon from the opposite sides of a field of battle." According to the custom of the day, the division was taken by the Opposition going out into the Lobby, while the supporters of the Government were counted in their places. Macaulay was one of those who remained. They tried to count those who were passing out, and were much too excited to do it, all arriving at different numbers. Then they were themselves counted and found to be 302. After one irrepressible cry of joy, they waited in breathless excitement for the others to come back. As the Opposition dribbled in, each of them brought a different account of their numbers. Then a member who stood near the door jumped on a bench and shouted, "They are only 301!"

"We set up a shout that you might have heard at Charing Cross, waving our hats, stamping against the floor, and clapping our hands. The Tellers scarcely got through the crowd, for the House was thronged up to the Table, and all the floor was fluctuating with heads like the pit of a theatre. But you might have heard a pin drop as Duncannon read the numbers. Then again the shouts broke out, and many of us shed tears. We shook hands and clapped each other on the back, and went laughing, crying, and huzzaing into the lobby. And no sooner were the outer doors opened than another shout answered that within the House. All the passages and the stairs and the waiting-rooms were thronged by people who had waited till four in the morning to hear the issue. We passed through a narrow lane between two thick masses of them, and all the way down they were shouting and waving their hats till we got into the open air. . . . So ended a scene which will probably never be equalled till the reformed Parliament wants reforming, and that, I hope, will not be till the days of our grandchildren."

But the popular excitement was not to end so soon or so easily. A month later an amendment was carried in Committee against the Bill, and amidst scenes of great violence Parliament was dissolved. The Government returned to power with a substantial majority, and passed their Bill in the Commons by 109. When the Lords rejected it something like a revolution began in the country. "In Birmingham, blacksmiths worked all night preparing arms and balls with steel points on them to throw under the feet of the cavalry." The third Bill won a majority of 162. The Lords by nine votes passed the second reading, and threw out the Bill in Committee. Wellington, at the King's orders, attempted to form a Ministry which scarcely lasted a week. The people threatened barricades and open war. Political clubs and unions ordered their members to pay no taxes unless the Bill passed. The temper of the soldiers was doubtful. To force a failure of the banks, placards lined the streets, "To stop the Duke go for gold."

It was impossible to resist the public feeling. Grey returned to power, the Lords, under a threat of an addition to their numbers, yielded, and the Bill was passed. "The King of England has thrown his crown into the gutter," said the Tsar. "The country has fallen," said the Tories. "The millennium is at hand," said the Whigs. It was not quite that, but the British middle classes had at last entered on a portion of their inheritance of political power and the stream of constitutional freedom which had for a time been dammed up, again flowed on.

It was not till a generation later that it was once more broadened out by a fresh Reform Bill. In the meantime much had been accomplished: the Poor Law had been improved, the first Factory Acts had been passed, the municipalities had gained some powers of self-government, the Corn Laws had been repealed. Much had failed: the Chartist agitation with its demand for Manhood Suffrage, Equal Electoral Districts, Vote by Ballot, Annual Parliaments and Payment of Members had ended in what seemed at the moment to be a complete and tragic wreck. The protection of the workers, the protection of children, the cause of popular education, the cause of religious toleration, proceeded but slowly. Once more the governing classes were beginning to imagine that the ends of freedom had been attained, and that there was nothing more to be done.

The cause of Parliamentary Reform had, indeed, been re-opened by Lord John Russell in 1852, but the Bills which successive Governments introduced had all proved abortive. It was not till after the death of Palmerston that Gladstone, then only just attaining to the zenith of his powers, threw his strength into the question. "Every man," he said, "who is not presumably incapacitated by some consideration of personal unfitness or political danger, is morally entitled to come within the pale of the Constitution." The scheme of borough franchise which he introduced, was, however, a moderate and compromising measure. An indifferent House of Commons refused to be moved by his fiery eloquence, or to listen to the warning that "it is vain to fight against the future." The Bill was supported by Bright and Forster, Mill and Fawcett. It was attacked with a kind of perverse brilliance (not unknown in our present House of Commons) by Robert Lowe. It passed its Second Reading by five votes only, and was thrown out in Committee.

There was no General Election. The Queen merely sent for Lord Derby to form a Government. But in the Parliamentary recess Bright and Gladstone turned to the people—Bright appealed on behalf of "the unenfranchised almost voiceless millions" of his countrymen to "that tribunal which God has set up in the consciences of men." The appeal was not in vain. Great demonstrations in all parts of the country persuaded the new Conservative Government that the people were in earnest; and in the following year, Disraeli, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced, and finally passed, in a Parliament which 'showed more surprise than pleasure,' a Bill which was wider in scope than Gladstone's, and enfranchised over a million voters, most of whom were artisans in the towns. It was the beginning of Household Suffrage, the beginning of the political emancipation of the working man. One of its immediate results was popular education.

There were still, however, "unenfranchised millions," some of whom were just beginning to have a voice. On May 26th, 1867, John Stuart Mill moved an Amendment in the Committee stage of the Bill to enfranchise qualified women. It secured 73 votes, against an opposition of 196. Among those who supported it was Henry Fawcett, then member for Brighton, and already showing the independence of party prejudice and the indomitable, patient devotion to the cause of the weak, which were to be the main characteristics of his Parliamentary life. At this time his newly-married wife, Millicent Garrett Fawcett, began her long years of toil for the Cause of Women's Suffrage, and at this time, too, were founded the first of those Societies which were afterwards to join together under her leadership in the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. To us, who are still unenfranchised, no time can be of greater historic interest, except the present year of grace.

The third of the Reform Bills which was passed—that of 1884—enfranchised the agricultural labourers, who, in spite of the labours of Joseph Arch, were still among the most helpless and economically dependent millions of the population. It included a certain number of artisans living outside the limits of Parliamentary Boroughs, and a certain number of employees of various kinds occupying houses or separate rooms in virtue of their employment. One of the most interesting points about

it was that though its chief object and result was to extend political freedom to the dwellers in the country, the demand for it came largely from the artisans in the towns. Sir George Trevelyan, nephew of Lord Macaulay, who had grown up among the traditions of 1832, and entered Parliament just in time for the Bills of 1866 and 1867, had the great credit of keeping the House of Commons mindful of reform all through the 'seventies. Gladstone was, of course, the protagonist of the 1884 measure. It passed the House of Commons in the summer of that year with less agitation and less opposition than its predecessors. The Lords threw it out in July, but accepted it in November after an agreement had been reached about re-distribution. Thus the working men of Great Britain attained to citizenship.

The women were still left out; neither Bright nor Gladstone had clearly realised that these, too, also were part of the People. The rest of the history of Parliamentary Reform in Great Britain is almost entirely contained in the history of the Women's Suffrage movement. It is the history which we are living now, but which, we believe, with no uncertain faith, will soon draw to a triumphant close. For the time has arrived when the vast majority of all parties are united in their desire to approach that ideal which the Home Secretary spoke of in his speech on May 22nd, "to make Parliament the Mirror of the Nation."

Technical Training for Girls.

Though it is to be hoped that women will stay on, after the war, in many of the occupations that have been newly opened to them, we must be prepared for considerable dislocation of industry, and it is urgent that, among the problems of reconstruction, the question of developing fresh trades and providing adequate technical training for girls as well as boys shall be considered.

In the past there have been comparatively few opportunities for a girl to master a trade thoroughly. Many branches of skilled and semi-skilled trades have been closed to them altogether, and even in industries, such as dressmaking, that are largely in women's hands, the training has often been very perfunctory. An apprentice was frequently kept for weeks, or even months, doing two or three simple jobs, instead of being carefully taught every process of the trade she was supposed to be learning, with the result that she never really became a skilled worker commanding good pay.

The wages earned by women in many branches of war-work are so much higher than the pre-war standard that certain trades have had to alter their practises in order to prevent a wholesale exodus of their workers. Among these are the dressmaking, ladies' tailoring, and millinery trades.

Even before the war these trades were not getting their full share of intelligent girls leaving school, and when employers asked the Juvenile Advisory Committee the reasons for this, they were told that young people were not being recommended to go into them because the prospects were not sufficiently attractive. The war greatly increased the dearth of learners. Foreseeing, therefore, that their difficulties were likely to grow greater rather than less, the dressmakers and ladies' tailors appointed a committee to enquire into the whole question, and a report was presented in the autumn of last year, making a number of suggestions, many of which have been carried out.

One very important recommendation was that young employees between the ages of fourteen and sixteen years of age should be allowed to attend a trade school in employers' time, and many business houses now give facilities for their learners to attend such schools for six hours a week, where a more systematic training can be given than is possible in a busy workroom. At the classes arranged by the L.C.C. are to be found a number of girls who have already started to earn, while many others are fresh from school, and take a two-years' course before entering paid occupation. Before being definitely accepted as pupils, they are given a three months' probation, and have to give proof that they are likely to become really skilled workers, who can obtain a good wage as junior assistants to begin with, with a prospect of rising to positions of responsibility, such as that of cutter or fitter. The classes are not intended for the girl who has no ambition, but is content to remain all her life in the lower ranks of industry.

The trades at present being taught in the L.C.C. trade schools are dressmaking, tailoring, millinery, corset and lingerie making, photography, embroidery, upholstery, waistcoat making, hairdressing, laundry, domestic service, and cookery.

When I visited the school at Queen's Square, Bloomsbury, a hundred or more little girls in neat overalls were hard at work at various processes of their trade. In the dressmaking and tailoring department some were making button-holes, others machining, while the more advanced were mastering the arts of cutting and fitting. Pupils at these schools do not cut out from flat paper patterns, like the amateur, but learn French modelling as done in the trade. A number of dummies of various sizes are provided, and these are cleverly padded out to obtain the exact proportions needed.

Each process of the trade is practised separately until the learner is proficient, and an interesting collection of specimens of the work of individual pupils shows the steady improvement made. Rows of button-holes gradually progressing in difficulty, samples of elaborate machining, requiring a most accurate eye, pockets of varied shape and workmanship, cuffs, sleeves, and other parts of various garments, are all worked at in turn by the little pupil until their difficulties are mastered. Then she learns to put the different parts together. Some specialise in skirts, others in coats, in the tailoring department, but before leaving, each girl makes one of each of these garments complete from start to finish. Equally thorough is the training given to the dressmakers. All the dainty finishing touches have to be learnt as well as the elementary part of the work, and though some are training as skirt hands and some as bodice hands, all the pupils get a chance to obtain an insight into every process of the trade. Some of the dresses I saw were quite elaborate, and seemed to me remarkably good work for such young girls, few of the pupils being over sixteen. One felt that these children had a fair chance to rise to good positions, and wished that a larger number of girls throughout the country could take advantage of such training as is given in the school.

In the same way the millinery pupils make hat-shapes, bows, and all sorts of accessories, before they work at the complete articles. They must become very deft before they are allowed actually to trim a hat, and have the delight of seeing the work of their clever fingers in a complete form.

The corset-making and lingerie department also offers facilities for an exceptionally thorough training. A girl needs a very good eye to achieve correctly the many complicated curves of the machine-stitching required in the fashioning of corsets, and proficiency can only come with long and careful practice under a patient teacher.

For a girl with artistic tastes photography offers considerable openings. In the department where this is taught I saw girls happily working away at a number of processes that seemed to me very complicated, among them being re-touching prints and negatives, and taking out blemishes. The girls are not trained in the school to be operators, but there is no reason why they should not acquire the higher branches of the art later on, with experience.

In addition to technical training, girls at the Trade Schools carry on their general education, and attend drawing-classes and classes in physical exercises, which are most important for children engaged in sedentary occupations. The fees are very moderate—10s. a term, paid in advance. A number of scholarships are offered to girls from the elementary, secondary, and other schools in the London area, but it would be well if there were more of them, as many parents who would gladly send their daughters to the classes cannot afford the cost of maintaining them entirely for two years.

A thorough course of training in the Westminster School of cookery is now open to girls, though the special three-years' course for *chefs* is still closed to them, and short courses, suitable for girls intending to enter domestic service, are also available. Technical classes of various kinds are also held in the London Polytechnics.

The facilities for technical training arranged by the L.C.C. are excellent as far as they go, but there is need to think ahead and make plans for developing new trades immediately the war is over. During the war special classes have been arranged by the L.C.C. for munition-making, and readers of THE COMMON CAUSE know of the classes for teaching women the highly skilled work of welding, organised by the Women's Service Bureau. There must be many peace-time trades, hitherto closed to them, that women can master equally well, and in which their work will be needed if British trade is to hold its own in the markets of the world.

M. M.

Reviews.

WOMEN WAR WORKERS. By Representative Workers; with a foreword by Lady Jellicoe. Edited by Gilbert Stone. (Harrap. 3s. 6d. net.)

This little volume gives a vivid picture of some of the chief branches of work undertaken by women since the outbreak of war, and a general idea of the part which they have played in the national effort. "There are no frightened arms, hanging like a sentimental weight round the necks of fighting men, but willing muscles pulling with men at the mighty tug-of-war. . . . Woman has won her place in the State. . . . . It is fellow-citizens, and not merely fellow-countrymen in future."

Accounts are given, from first-hand experience, of work at munitions, on the land, as a post-woman, 'bus conductor, butcher girl, V.A.D., and bank clerk. All alike breathe a spirit of cheerfulness—of the joy in "doing one's bit"—and speak of the good comradeship springing up among workers of different classes and between men and women. Some jealousy there always exists when women enter into occupations hitherto guarded for men, but on the whole the men have been very ready to help, and not prone to criticise unkindly. So, too, the rougher factory hand, inclined to resent at first the intrusion of workers of a different class, is gradually won over by tact to a friendly feeling, while the educated woman is having her eyes opened to many elements in the lives of the poor "that must be placed to the discredit of those other classes who have allowed the continued existence of conditions which generate the things from which we shrink appalled."

Each class learns much from rubbing shoulders with another. Inside the factory gates all are on a level. Garments are as varied as tongues, most workers, however, being neatly and quietly attired. "The few really shabby ones are popularly supposed to be duchesses in their own right. . . . One girl was overheard remarking to another: "Say, young Doll, see that there lydy on the end machine? They do say as 'ow she's a Dook."

The chapter on nursing at the French Front is particularly interesting, and shows that the trained nurses who have worked for the French wounded have not only been of very great immediate service, but have gradually shown what skilled nursing means, and how greatly it can lessen the work and responsibility of the doctor. Before the separation of the Roman Catholic Church from the French State, nursing was almost entirely in the hands of nuns. When the nuns left France, "with few exceptions, nursing passed into the hands of women who had neither the refinement nor the education necessary to make nurses as we understand the term." At the outbreak of war, much of the nursing in military hospitals was done by amateurs, hastily trained, and much by male orderlies. In any case, the doctor had to undertake an amount of supervision quite unknown in a British Hospital.

An amusing account is given by the writer of the article of the way in which the medical officer in charge of a big hospital was induced to accept a matron, and his satisfaction with the result.

A large hospital had been opened in the Gironde district, and the French War Minister, anxious to test the value of skilled nursing by comparison, decided that there should be a staff of French doctors and orderlies with British nurses.

"The Directrice-Générale went to help in the organisation of the hospital. She spoke of a matron as a matter of course, but the Colonel threw up his hands in horror at the suggestion of a matron. "*Jamais, jamais!*" he exclaimed; he himself would be responsible for the nursing, and each nurse should come to him for her orders. At the end of two and a-half hours' coaxing and persuading and kindly bullying, however, the Directrice-Générale got her own way, and the matron idea was accepted, "not because there was any sense in it," added the Colonel, but "because he did not wish to contradict a lady." So Miss Haswell was installed as matron, and very soon the nursing was running smoothly on English lines. And the Colonel, having had time to sample the value of the arrangement which deprived him of all worry, and at the same time worked so well, became a kind of glorious pioneer in the eyes of his confrères. "Why does my hospital work so well?" he echoed in answer to this query. "Because I am working with a very reasonable woman, who at once saw the value of my idea of appointing a matron."

The chapter on the V.A.D. nurse contains some inaccuracies, as for example, the statement that in most of the military hospitals the professional probationers help the nurse, and the V.A.D. only picks up unconsidered trifles of knowledge. This may be true of some of the big civil hospitals that have now a military side, but it does not apply to the majority of military hospitals. The chapter on "War Organisation of Women" also shows signs of somewhat hasty enquiry; but although it cannot be regarded as a thorough and complete record of women's war work, the volume is a valuable addition to books already written on this subject.

One impression gained from the book is that women who are independent of what they earn are not sufficiently alive to the duty of insisting on a living wage. The writer of the chapter on "The Land," for instance, enjoyed her hard work, and felt none the worse for it; but then she spent the *whole* of her 15s. a week on board and lodging. What of the girl who had to allow for the wear and tear of clothes and boots out of this meagre sum? The 18s. established as a minimum under the Women's Land Army scheme is none too much, and the woman who takes less is doing her sisters a great disservice.

So, too, the merry butcher-girl who gives such an amusing account of her experiences, accepted a wage that must have been far less than that of the man whom she replaced, who may, perhaps, find it difficult to get his old wage again later on, now that his employer knows he can get his work done for so much less.

With regard to the future of the woman worker, the editor is on the whole hopeful. He foretells that women will earn more, and that more kinds of employment will be opened to them, and maintains that the future woman-worker must have "a more virile education designed to mould women's characters so that they know more of the world, and thus may be better fitted to fend for themselves." At present it is very difficult for a woman to obtain the general training and business experience that would fit her for positions of responsibility in the commercial world, though one hears now and again of fathers taking daughters into partnership, and this practice is likely to grow less uncommon, since so many fathers have lost the sons who would have carried on the family business.

In the industrial world, Mr. Stone fears that Trade Unions may attempt to stop women altogether from competing with men along lines hitherto closed to them, and pleads for fair play for the women who have helped the men in time of war.

WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The Women's Municipal Party, of which the Duchess of Marlborough is President and Chairman, has recently issued its third annual report, showing the advance that the Society continues to make. Included in the report are some interesting tables, showing the need for a greater number of Municipal Maternity and Infant Welfare Centres, Women Sanitary Inspectors, and Health Visitors in the Metropolitan area, and also a table of Local Governing Bodies in England and Wales, which draws attention to the lamentably small number of women serving in these bodies.

The chief aims of the Women's Municipal Party are to stimulate women's personal sense of citizenship, and to secure their election as candidates for municipal bodies. Its work is now recognised as filling a need which, undoubtedly, existed. Such an organisation, being non-party, will be invaluable during the reconstruction that will follow the close of the war, when it is anticipated women will take a far greater share in the administration of the country, especially in questions of Local Government.

PIONEER PLAYERS.

The production of "The Tidings Brought to Mary" by the Pioneer Players on Sunday last was remarkable for the beauty of its setting, reached by means very different from the elaborate picturesqueness and the noisy stage crowds generally associated on the London stage with plays of the mediæval period. The scenery provided for M. Paul Claudel's play by Miss Edith Craig is of a severe simplicity, but it attains much beauty of line and colour, and is better suited to the mystical atmosphere of the story than any amount of fussy accuracy in archæology could have made it. Certainly the audience had ample opportunity of appreciating these stage pictures, for the scenes are of great length, and the drift of the action by no means easy to follow. Probably those already familiar with the play by reading, saw deeper into the dramatist's meaning, but it is to be feared that many of Sunday's audience went away with no very clear idea of the significance of the miracle round which the story centres—the restoration to life of the child of the hard-hearted, unscrupulous Mara through the saintliness of the leper sister whom she has wronged.

The great length of the speeches, and their nature—often lyrical rather than dramatic—makes a first performance of the play a severe test for the performers, from which, in this case, they emerged very well.

Miss Hazel Jones was gentle and dignified but very girlish as Violaine, the elder sister, and Miss Mona Limerick brought out well the misery of the bitter, passionate Mara.

THE NEW HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN
144, Euston Road, N.W.
Founded by Mrs. Elizabeth Garrett Anderson
Staffed by Women **Jubilee Year**
AN APPEAL
is being made for donations and subscriptions towards endowing some of the beds in commemoration of the Jubilee Year. Contributions to this Fund, or for General Purposes will be gratefully acknowledged.
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The Challenge
The Illustrated Church of England Weekly.
EVERY FRIDAY. ONE PENNY
The wider recognition of Women's Contribution to the Affairs of Church and State is one of the vital problems constantly dealt with.
Among those who contribute are Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Luke Paget, Miss A. Maude Royden, Miss Ruth Rouse, Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, Mrs. Pember Reeves, &c.
A Specimen Copy will be sent to readers of "The Common Cause" on application
You should find THE CHALLENGE on sale at all bookstalls, but if you have any difficulty or would prefer it sent direct, a copy will be posted to you for 13 weeks if you send 1s. 9d. to THE MANAGER, THE CHALLENGE, EVELEIGH HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, LONDON, W.C.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

Correspondence.

FARMERS AND WOMEN LAND WORKERS.

MADAM,—May I beg a small space in your valuable paper, *re* your article in THE COMMON CAUSE for June 1st, "The Farmer and the Women Land Workers"? I think the "rural corner" must indeed be an exception. The farmers in the "very rural corner" where we live do indeed understand, and have from the outbreak of war realised the gravity of the situation, and from the start have done their best to grapple with it; and to-day it would be hard to find a man who works harder than the farmer himself.

From this parish the men and boys responded nobly to the call at the very outset, and not a few who might in any case have sought work in towns. I believe there are five or six farmers of military age left in the parish, all over thirty years of age, and all "indispensables," inasmuch as their farms could not be carried on without them. So far as I know, we have no members of the W.L.A., but the wives of the labourers have come forward, not "picturesquely arrayed" or dressed for effect, but anxious as ever their menfolk at the front are to "do their bit."

I think it is quite time people realised what an important part the farmer plays, and how willingly he has from the outset responded to the nation's call, though under great difficulties, having lost at the beginning practically all his skilled hands. Yet, if we are to believe our daily papers, he is a self-seeking monster, caring nothing for his country, and living on the fat of the land. I trust there are not many exceptions like those in your article, for though as a class we do not set up to be brilliant or polished, I think it is only in winter time we "stick in the mud," and even then we make an effort to rise above it.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

STATE REGISTRATION FOR NURSES.

MADAM.—As the question of State Registration for Nurses not only affects a large body of women workers, but also the good of the community, I will ask you to allow me to elucidate the following point in the controversy about the Bills which have been drafted.

The Central Committee for State Registration (to which are affiliated Organised Nurses' Societies and the British Medical Association) maintains as a foundation principle that the right to appoint representatives on the Preliminary Council—the body which will frame the rules—*shall be established in the Act.* What the college promoters offer instead is valueless, being merely the favour of being allowed by the college to suggest names for the council—not the right of representation at all. They appear to fail to grasp that what the Central Committee are fighting for is not personal recognition, but the status of the nursing profession.

The Central Committee knows that what it asks for is right, and that no Bill will be passed that does not contain this just provision. What it regrets is the waste of time and energy caused by the college promoters being so dilatory in recognising this fact. Had they agreed to the demand in the early days of the negotiations, there would have been no friction, and the opposition which has since arisen would never have come to life. Now every effort should be made to enlighten public opinion and so shorten the struggle. The Central Committee is merely taking a hand in the universal fight for freedom, and whether the fight be long or short, its cause is bound to prevail in the end.

E. L. C. EDEN, Hon. Sec. National Union of Trained Nurses.

CAN A WOMAN BE A PETTY SESSIONS CLERK?

MISS FROST'S CASE.

Mr. Thomas Frost was Petty Sessions Clerk of Sixmilebridge, Newmarket-on-Fergus, for the forty-five years preceding June 15th, 1915, when he retired. He had been in delicate health for the last five years, and during that time his daughter, Miss Georgina Frost, discharged all the duties of the office, thus acquiring a thorough knowledge of the work.

The Justices unanimously elected Miss Frost as successor to her father, but were officially notified that the Lord Lieutenant was advised that the appointment of a woman could not be approved, and were directed to hold a new election.

Miss Frost obtained, by Petition of Right, permission to have her case tried in court, and the Justices unanimously elected her as temporary clerk pending the determination of the question whether or not a woman could hold the office.

April 20th, in the case of Frost *v.* the King in the Chancery Division, judgment was given in favour of the Crown, Mr. Justice Barton deciding that Miss Georgina Frost was incapable, on account of her sex, of holding the office of Petty Sessions Clerk. Mr. Justice Barton was sympathetic, but he held that, if women were to be admitted for the first time to be recording officers of a court of civil and criminal jurisdiction, it should be done by a higher court or by the legislature. The petition was dismissed without costs.

Miss Frost appealed against the decision, and the case may come on at any time. Mrs. Haslam, 163, Rathgar Road, Dublin, President of the Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association, writes as follows in regard to Miss Frost's expenses:—

"The expenses of the legal proceedings have already been a heavy strain on the finances of her father and her friends, and the further proceedings will involve considerable outlay. The Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association has arranged to open a fund to assist Miss Frost to defray these expenses. We hope that those who have an interest in women's work and progress will be glad to help."

Mrs. Haslam has since written inviting the help of English friends, and subscriptions may be sent to her care. Subscriptions may be sent to the Secretary, The Women's Local Government Society, 19, Tothill Street, Westminster, S.W. 1, marked "For Miss Frost's Case."

A PRACTICAL FORM OF GREETING.—Several birthday greetings to Mrs. Fawcett have come in the shape of donations to the 1917 Franchise Fund, and also of donations to be devoted to any branch of the National Union's activities that Mrs. Fawcett may select.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS VIOLET EUSTACE.
MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary)
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
MRS. AUERBACH.
Secretary:
MISS EDITH STOFFORD.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone—4673 Vic.

The press of work at Headquarters during the progress of the Reform Bill is tremendous. Not only is there the ordinary business of the Union to carry on, but there is naturally a greatly increased stress of Press and information bureau work, besides an increased sale of literature, and a welcome activity in the finance department. In the Parliamentary department the work proceeds at high pressure. All the final deputations and interviews with members of Parliament are now arranged, and the collection and tabulation of the rapidly accumulating information is a colossal task. Committees, Consultation Committees, Joint Committees, Sub-Committees, and Conferences sit in constant succession, and the Bill and all its amendments and possibilities are subjected to a close and constant scrutiny. Attendance is also frequently necessary in the Lobby and in the Ladies' Gallery during the progress of the debate, and the days are hardly long enough for the work that is to be done.

Deputations have been received by:—
Mr. E. A. Strauss (U.), Southwark, W.
Mr. A. Richardson (L.), Peckham.
Mr. W. F. Perkins (U.), New Forest.
Sir D Goddard (L.), Ipswich.
General Sir Ivor Philipps (U.), Southampton.

1917 Franchise Fund.

We are most grateful for the donations that have been sent in. The need continues both for headquarter's work and for the Parliamentary work in the Federations, in some of which a great deal is being done.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	1,442	10	10
The Misses Stirling (2nd don.)		2	6
Miss Gertrude W. Seymour ...	2	0	0
Miss F. Rathbone	2	2	0
Miss A. Bateson	2	10	0
Mrs. S. M. Robinson	2	0	0
Mrs. Paynter (2nd don.) ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Alys Russell	5	0	0
Salisbury and S. Wilts W.S.S. (1st instal.)	7	7	0
Miss Violet Eustace	1	0	0
Miss A. B. Weir		2	6
Llangollen W.S.S.	1	0	0
Keswick W.S.S.	3	0	0
	£1,469	14	10

ERRATUM.—The amount of the donation sent by the Sevenoaks and District W.S.S. was £2 2s., not £2 as published.

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1916 ...	1,253	14	5
Received from June 2nd to 8th, 1917:—			
SUBSCRIPTIONS.			
Lady Rutherford	1	1	0
Madame Cantamessa		5	0
Miss Bertha Clarke		5	0
Mrs. Pilsbury		10	0
Miss Ethel Silk		2	6
The Misses Stirling		2	6
Mrs. Alys Russell	10	0	0
Mrs. J. C. P. Thompson... ...		2	0
Mrs. C. Howard Somers... ...		5	0
Miss Violet Eustace		5	0
Miss J. A. Booth		2	0
AFFILIATION FEES.			
Chesterfield W.S.S....		10	0
Eastbourne W.S.S.	1	10	9
Wigan and District W.S.S. ...		5	0
Shipston-on-Stour W.S.S. ...		6	6
	£1,269	6	8

IMPORTANT.

Postal orders should be crossed, and filled in N.U.W.S.S.

Treasury notes should be treated like coins, and *always registered.* If any contributions remain more than two days unacknowledged, please write at once to the Secretary, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith-street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

Please address letters containing money either to the Secretary, or to Mrs. Auerbach, or Miss Sterling by name, *not* to the Treasurer.

MEMORIAL TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

Signatures for the following memorial to the Prime Minister have been obtained by the Bury W.S.S. from representative persons in the constituency:—

"We, the undersigned, urge the necessity of enfranchising women in the forthcoming Electoral Reform Bill, so that they may take part in the election of the Parliament which will deal with the problems of reconstruction."

"We are ourselves much impressed by the great desire in our district at the present time that women should be enabled to take their right share and have their due representation in the State," state the promotors of the Memorial.

The signatories number over 400, including :—

The Mayor and Mayoress.
4 Freemen of the Borough.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS.
25 Aldermen and Councillors.
9 Poor Law Guardians.
11 Important Public Officials connected with the Railways, Tramways, Police, National Health Insurance, Food Control, &c.
25 Magistrates. (This number includes the 4 Freemen of the Borough, 8 Members of the Town Council, and 5 Members of the Medical Profession.)

PROFESSIONS.
27 Clergymen and Ministers.
31 Head Masters and Head Mistresses.
32 School Teachers.
19 Lawyers. (Including Town Clerk and County Coroner.)
20 Members of the Medical Profession.
10 Army Officers.

TRADE ORGANISATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS.
76 Officials of Trades Unions and Officials of Trades Councils.

BUSINESS AND COMMERCE.
45 Large Employers of Labour and Managers of Companies and Representatives of the Chamber of Commerce.
10 Bank Managers and Chartered Accountants.

SOCIAL WELFARE.
25 Matrons and Nurses.
32 Social Workers. (Including Officials of Hospitals, Religious Bodies, Temperance and Philanthropic Organisations, &c.)

THE LATE PROFESSOR HUGHES.—By the death of Professor McKenny Hughes, Woodwardian Professor of Geology at Cambridge, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association, the cause of women's education, progress, and political enfranchisement has lost a staunch friend. Both he and his wife, who died last year, are much regretted by a large circle of friends.

NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENCE.—Mrs. Humphry Ward's letter, which recently appeared in *The Times*, was also published in the *West Herts and Watford Observer*, which circulates in Mr. Arnold Ward's constituency. The West Herts Women's Suffrage Society is, however, a vigorous body, and it has not allowed Mrs. Humphry Ward's arguments to pass unchallenged. A lively column of correspondence on the Suffragist side makes the issue of the paper for June 9th very entertaining reading. Mr. Arthur Aronson, in a cogent letter, points to the large amount of public social work which can only be carried out effectively when women, as voters, have direct influence upon Parliament. Miss Staley, B.A., the local Society's Hon. Secretary, takes the Referendum point as it was set forth in THE COMMON CAUSE. Miss Edith Bateson meets Mrs. Ward's rhetorical declaration that "the physical force, the bone and blood of men," are (so to speak) everything and women nothing, by asking whence the bone and blood and physical force came and of whom they were born? To the Antis' puzzled question what has made some politicians change their views about Women's Suffrage since the war, she replies "Armageddon." Miss Bateson adds, "One does not enquire what Noah's views were on the deluge before he built the Ark!"

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

ROYAUMONT.

For some time past, owing to changes in the French lines, the Unit at the Abbaye de Royaumont has not been so busy as usual. This week, however, Dr. Ivens has been requested to open a Canteen for French soldiers nearer the firing-line. These canteens are badly needed, and the Committee are delighted to have another opportunity to help our French Ally. A motor-kitchen is essential if the Canteen is to be organised on the most efficient lines—and the Nottingham Lace Workers, per the Dennis Bagley Fund, have presented the S.W.H. at Royaumont with a beautifully fitted-out kitchen. The canteen work is starting immediately.

Dr. Ivens hopes shortly to advance with part of her Hospital nearer to the new French line—and is at present carrying on negotiations with the authorities with a view to moving soon.

Miss Cicely Hamilton, who has been at Royaumont since its inauguration, first as Clerk, and then as Administrator, has resigned to take up other work. Her resignation was a matter of regret to the Committee, for she has helped greatly to contribute to the success of the Hospital.

CORSICA.

In Corsica there have been changes also. Dr. Erskine and Mrs. Robertson paid an official visit to this Unit a short time ago, and after consultation with the heads, decided to re-open the Lazaret for tubercular patients. Unfortunately, owing to the many privations which the Serbians have suffered, there is a great deal of tuberculosis amongst them. All the tubercular patients will be treated at the Lazaret. The convalescent are being taught hat and basket-making, and a number are receiving lessons in English.

Dr. Phillips, the C.M.O., is returning home. She has been with the S.W.H. since November, 1915, when she accompanied Dr. Alice Hutchison to Calais to open a typhoid hospital for the Belgians. Later she went to Serbia, and then to Corsica.

LONDON UNITS.

The President of the Serbian Red Cross, Colonel Borissanljevitch, and Colonel Soubotitch, visited the Chairman of the London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals to express their gratitude for all the work done by the different Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals for the Serbians.

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals for Home and Foreign Service.

Further subscriptions are still urgently needed, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units to be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or the Hon. Mrs. B. M. Graves, Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list to June 2nd, 1917	216,305	9	2
Further donations received to June 7th, 1917 :—			
*Per Miss Kathleen Burke, per the Manager, Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto (already received £500—£350 for purchase of Ambulance, Elsie Inglis' Unit, £250 for maintenance for one year)... ...	100	0	0
*2nd instal. from "Chain Teas," per Mrs. Norman Hunter ...	100	0	0
From Taihape Working Women's Club for Soldiers' Comforts, New Zealand, per T. Mackenzie, Esq., for Dr. Agnes Bennett, S.W.H. Salonica ...	15	0	0
*Colonel James Davidson ...	2	2	0
Mrs. Wilkie, per Dr. Beatrice Russell	2	2	0
*J. W. Morgan, Esq.	2	0	0
*9th instal. from Waste Paper and Waste Material Scheme, result of Jumble Sale held on June 2nd, per Miss Isabelle Kerr, Local Hon. Sec. S.W.H.	130	0	0
*10th instal. from Waste Paper and Waste Material Scheme, per Miss Isabelle Kerr, Local Hon. Sec. S.W.H.	24	15	5
*Per Mrs. Blair, further for "Mak' Merry" beds (American Unit) : A Sporting Cousin (£26 5s.), By Self-denial (£7 16s.), Mrs. Shields (£5), Lord Lamington (£4 10s.), "A Daisy" (£3), Miss Wolfe (£2), R. S. Watson, Esq. (£2), J. Pettigrew, Esq. (£1), W. Murray, Esq. (£1), The Earl of Wemyss (£2 2s.), G. A. Connor, Esq. (£1 1s.), Dr. Chisholm (£1 1s.), Mrs. Shepherd (£1 1s.), Ugston Coal Co. (£1 1s.), Tranent School (£1 1s.), Mrs. Lindsay (£1), Mrs. Black (£1), Lady Murray (£1), J. P. Glendinning, Esq. (£1), By Subscriptions of 10s. and under, and by Patriotic "At Home" (£85 2s.)...	150	0	0
*Anonymous, per Dr. Margaret Joyce, towards "In Memory of an Artist, David C. Jenkins" bed, for three months (Royaumont)	12	10	0
Mrs. Thomson	5	0	0
*Misses J. O. and C. B. Ainslie	2	0	0
*Anonymous, for "In Memoriam J.A.G." (Royaumont) ...	1	0	0
*17th monthly don. from Staff of Kinnoull School, Perth, per Miss E. Allson, Hon. Treas. Perth W.S.S.	11	10	
Miss F. V. Walker...	10	0	
*Further from Jumble Sale held by Lancaster W.S.S., per Miss A. Helme, Hon. Sec.	10	0	
*Miss Elizabeth Rae (monthly don.)	2	6	
Mrs. Bruce	2	0	
*Per Miss Etta Shankland : *Greenock Central Co-op. Soc., per M. S. Swan, Esq., to name bed (£50), *Employees Kingston Yard, Port Glasgow, per J. M. Pearson, Esq., to name bed (£50), *Messrs. Wm. Hamilton & Co., per Alex. Kennedy, Esq. (£25), Henry Lithgow, Esq. (£10), The Clyde S. & E. Co., Ltd., per H. V. Lamb, Esq. (£10), *Pupils Clyde School, Greenock, per the Misses Purves (£1 5s.), *Pupils Ardgowan School, Greenock, per James Hutcheson, Esq. (£1), Miss Etta Scott (£1), Collected at Strachur, per Miss Kate J. McTavish (£1), Miss May Adam, guessing penny weekly collection (5s. 6d.)	149	10	6
F. J. Hayes, Esq.	10	0	0
*Per Miss Bury : *Employees Messrs. Michael Nairn & Co., for the "Lang Toon" bed (American Unit)...	7	10	11
*Firm and Employees Messrs. Wm. Hamilton & Co., further towards "Glen Shipbuilding Yard" bed, per D. Laurie, Esq., per Miss Etta Shankland	2	11	10
*Employees Messrs. James Dawson & Co., per W. Jollie, Esq., Manager	2	7	6
*Proceeds of Private Sale of Primroses in Grangemouth by the West Church Girls' Club, per Miss Galbraith, per Miss Belle Moir, Hon. Treas. Falkirk W.S.S....	1	16	0
John McWilliam, Esq.	1	1	0
The Misses McNeil	1	0	0
*Per Miss Bury : Rosyth Navvy Mission Soc., proceeds of concert at Limekilns, for the "Rosyth and Limekilns" bed (Salonica)	3	0	0
George Square Former Pupils' Club, per A. D. Ballingall, Esq., Hon. Treas.	2	0	0
W. H. Cowper, Esq.	5	0	
*Collected from Members of the Hope family, per Miss Annie Hope, for the two "Hope" beds (Salonica and Royaumont), 6 months each	50	0	0
*Emergency Helpers, Lerwick, per Miss Jessie T. Mitchell, Local Treas., for "Lerwick" bed (Royaumont)	25	0	0
*Mrs. A. Sanderson	2	6	
Mrs. J. H. Abercrombie... ...	50	0	0
Miss E. C. M. Ewart, for Wounded in Royaumont ...	5	0	0
*Mrs. Hay	10	0	
*Per Miss Etta Shankland : 10th Penny Weekly Collection in Greenock (total up to date £264 13s. 9d.)	23	16	2
	£217,189	6	4

* Denotes further donations.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"Allies" (Royaumont) (further 6 months)...	Per Miss Frances Ivens, Royaumont.
"La France" (Royaumont) (further 6 months)...	Per Miss Frances Ivens, Royaumont.
"Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science" (Salonica) (further 6 months)...	Per Miss Morrison, per Miss Inglis.
"Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science" (Royaumont) (further 6 months)	Per Miss Morrison, per Miss Inglis.
"Vive la France" (Salonica) (further 3 months)	Two Members Glasgow W.S.S.
"Mak' Merry" (4 beds) (Royaumont, Salonica, America Unit, Corsica) (further 9 months each)	Per Mrs. Blair, Hoprigmains, Gladsmuir.
"In Memory of an Artist, David C. Jenkins" (Royaumont) (further 3 months)...	Per Dr. M. Joyce, Liverpool.
"Rosyth and Limekilns" (Salonica) (6 months)	Per Miss Bury.
"Hope" I. and II. (Royaumont and Salonica) (further 6 months each) ...	Per Miss Annie Hope.
"Lerwick" (Royaumont) (further 6 months)	Emergency Helpers, per Miss Jessie T. Mitchell, Local Treas.
"Dalry Public School and Workers" (Salonica) (6 months)	Per Miss Etta Shankland, per James M'Cosh, Local Hon. Treas., Dalry.
"Glen Shipbuilding Yard" (New Unit) (6 months)	Firm and Employees Messrs. Wm. Hamilton & Co., Port Glasgow, per Miss Etta Shankland, Greenock.

ERRATA NOTE.—Miss Morrison, Hon. Treasurer Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, has received a donation of £100 from the Mid and Upper Cowal Local Committee, to name a bed to be called "The Mid and Upper Cowal" bed. This bed will appear in the list at the end of the month.

List of Greenock Beds in Corsica, per Miss Etta Shankland.

Name of Bed. One Year Each.	*Name of Bed.* One Year Each.
"Greenock Academy."	"Greenock Hillend School."
"Greenock Higher Grade School."	"Greenock Holmscroft School."
"Greenock Ardgowan School."	"Greenock Ladyburn School."
"Greenock Beltress."	"Greenock Mearns Street School."
"Greenock Clyde School."	"Greenock Shaw Street School."
"Greenock Belville Place School."	"Greenock School for the Deaf."
"Greenock Cartsburn School."	"Greenock St. Laurence R.C. School."
"Greenock Finnart School."	"Greenock Central Co-operative."
"Greenock Glebe School."	"Employees, Kingston Yard."
"Greenock Highlanders Academy."	"Greenock Penny."

London Units.

	£	s.	d.
Donations already acknowledged	32,940	16	4
Balfour, Williams & Co., Messrs.	50	0	0
Beaulands, Mrs.	2	0	0
Bournemouth Work Party, per Miss Lyon	1	7	0
Burke, per Miss K., American Collections	1,500	0	0
Cambridge Training College Meeting Collection, per Miss Reany	6	6	0
Cowie, Col.	1	0	0
Cox, Miss E. P.		10	0
Deeles, per Gertrude, Lady ...	50	0	0
"Dorothy," A Child Visitor ...			7
Freehold Women's War Club, per Miss Wilkie	2	2	0
Glasgow and Lanark Association of London	10	10	0
Graham, Miss Rose	2	2	0
"Harrogate College Bed," per Miss M. L. Davies	12	10	0
Haverfield, per The Hon. Mrs.	10	0	0
Hedges, Miss S. M. G.	1	0	0
Hinde, Mrs., Monthly Donation		5	0
Hoe, per Miss	1	0	0
Hodge, Miss Marie		10	0
Keith, Mrs. Robert		10	0
King, Miss Helen		10	0
London Metal Exchange Bed, per Mrs. G. Gray Buchanan	25	0	0
Muswell Hill, Scottish Concert, per Miss Wilkie	9	10	0
Oldham, Miss	1	10	4
Parton, per Miss:			
Barrington, Lady 5 0 0			
Beckett, Miss ... 10 0			
Gilkison, Mrs. ... 5 0 0			
Oates, Miss G. ... 2 0			
Webster, Mrs. ... 5 0 0			
Webster, Miss ... 5 0 0			
	20	12	0
Petrie, per Mrs. Flinders:			
Seaton Bed, 2 donations 25 0 0			
British School of Archæology in Egypt 6 12 0			
	31	12	0
Pupils of County High School for Girls, Leytonstone, per Miss Steenpel	4	3	0
Queen's Hall Concert, per Miss Curwen	34	6	0
Rhind, Mrs.		5	0
Roberts, Miss G.	1	1	0
St. Columba's Church Collection, per R. G. Anderson, Esq.	69	2	7
Sassoon's Meeting, Lady, Collection 7 8 3			
Lady Box Ironside 1 0 0			
	8	8	3
Singer, Mrs., Paris	2	2	0
Staff of Central Secondary School for Girls, Sheffield ...	4	2	6
Sterling, Mrs.	5	5	0
The Ocean Staff	2	14	0
Thorpe, Mrs. A. Winton ...	1	1	0
Tunbridge Wells W.S.S. Meeting Collection	20	0	0
Wallingford Meeting, per Miss Curwen	11	15	0
	£34,845	8	7

A CHEQUE FOR £10,000.

Owing to the successful profits of their season of "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," when Sir Johnston Forbes Robertson and his company so generously gave their services free, and other entertainments organised by the British Women's Hospital Committee (in addition to some handsome donations) they have been able to forward a cheque for £10,000 to the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

The season is still being continued at the Queen's Theatre, and the British Women's Hospital have also had the pleasure of sending:—

£500 to the Royal College of Nursing.
£500 to the Lord Robert's Memorial Workshops. And
£500 to the Hampstead General and North-West London Hospital.

WOMEN WELDERS' ORGANISATION FUND.

The members of the Society of Women Welders appeal to the readers of The Common Cause for subscriptions to help the expenses of their organisation. They are confident that their Society will shortly become self-supporting, but at first their organisation expenses must be heavy, and they trust that those who believe with them that the only protection for women workers is organisation, will help them in their venture.

Subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Miss M. M. Longley, c/o The Common Cause, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W. 1.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	85	7	6
Mrs. Auerbach	1	0	0
Mrs. Alys Russell...	2	0	0
	£88	7	6

"COMMON CAUSE" HUT.

We have to acknowledge £2 received from "Heilbron," South Africa, towards equipment for The Common Cause Hut, making the total amount collected £1,010 7s. 7d.

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

Manchester and District Federation Report.

Blackburn.—Public meeting in the Co-operative Hall was held on May 21st. In the absence of Mrs. Thoday, who was to have spoken on Electoral Reform, we were grateful to Miss Place, of the Manchester Society, who kindly came and spoke for us. Mrs. Blincoe followed with an interesting address on women as citizens.

A resolution was sent to the member of Parliament for Blackburn, and Sir George Cave, and Mr. Walter Long.

Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme.—A meeting was held at Miss Greenwood's, Lyme Lea, on May 18th. Chair, Mrs. Sarah Reynolds. Speaker, Miss Simpson, on "Electoral Reform." The meeting aroused much interest, and a resolution was sent to Major Hamilton

Chinley.—Members' meeting, May 10th, at Miss Westall, Princes-road, to discuss the political situation and raising of funds. Chair, Mrs. Preston.

Chorley.—On the evening of Tuesday, May 15th, a public meeting, in support of the Electoral Reform Bill now before the House of Commons, was held in the Town Hall, Chorley.

The Ven. Archdeacon Allan was in the chair, and the speakers were Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher, Miss Geraldine Cooke, and Mrs. Annot Robinson.

The meeting was a large one and very representative, 300 to 400 persons being present, and a resolution, urging that the Bill cannot go through without the inclusion of women, was adopted unanimously.

Copies of the resolution were sent to the Prime Minister, Sir George Cave, and Sir Henry Hibbert, the Member for Chorley.

In the past Sir Henry Hibbert has not been a supporter of the claims of women to be enfranchised, but there is ground for believing that the experience of war-time has led to a modification of his views on this question, and a whole-hearted support given to the speakers and the resolution at Tuesday's meeting cannot fail to have an effect on the views of the member for Chorley.

Darwen.—May 8th—Public meeting—Chair, Alderman Hindle—Speakers, Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher and Mrs. Cooper. Mrs. Fisher's speech aroused great interest, and the meeting was considered very satisfactory. A resolution was sent to Col. Sir John Rutherford. Collection amounted to £2 7s. 3d.

Disley.—May 9th, public meeting at Village Hall, Disley. Chair, Professor Weiss. Speakers, Mrs. Thoday and Miss C. D. Simpson. A resolution was sent to Col. Alan Sykes. Several new members were secured.

Rawtenstall.—Meeting for members and friends, held at Ashday Lea, by kind invitation of Miss Whitehead. Chair, Miss Whitehead. Speakers, Miss C. D. Simpson and Mrs. Annot Robinson. A resolution was sent to Sir Henry Maden.

Manchester.—During the month of May our principal activities were directed towards approaching our various members, asking for their support for the women's clauses in the Electoral Reform Bill. Letters from constituents were sent to Sir George Pollard (Eccles), and received a very courteous reply. A deputation waited on Sir Frederick Cawley in the House of Commons on Monday, May 21st, and was well received. Sir George Agnew, replying to a request for an interview, asked that a letter should be sent to him, setting forth our statement of the case; this has been sent. Friendly letters have been received from Mr. Montague Barlow and Sir John Randles. A meeting was held in Salford on May 24th, and the resolutions passed there were sent to the three members for Salford.

It is satisfactory to know that the representatives of the constituencies of Manchester, Salford, Gorton, Prestwich, and Stretford were nearly all present in the House, and voted in favour of the second reading. Of the three absent members, one is serving his country in Egypt. The other two are amongst our staunchest supporters, and were, doubtless, unavoidably prevented from being present in the House on this occasion. The work in Manchester has been light, owing to the fact that most of our members are supporters of the women's cause.

Memorials and Deputations.

Bury.—A most important and impressive memorial has been prepared in Bury. It affords a striking example of the increased support for Suffrage now found in a typical small Lancashire town. Bury Society have asked Sir George Toulmin, their M.P., to present this memorial to the Minister in charge of the Bill.

Accrington.—A memorial, signed by about 140 important people, has been presented to Major Baker, M.P.

Altrincham.—A memorial, signed by 200 important persons, has been presented to Major Hamilton, M.P.

Darwen.—An influential deputation met Col. Sir John Rutherford, M.P., at Blackburn, on May 21st. Present: Miss C. D. Simpson, Miss Place, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Jepson, three representatives of Darwen constituency. A memorial, containing nearly 200 influential signatures from Darwen voters was presented to Col. Sir John Rutherford. He said he was less opposed to Women's Suffrage than before.

Stockport, Wigan, Knutsford, West Houghton, Staleybridge Divisions.—A deputation, consisting of Miss C. D. Simpson, Mrs. Thoday, and Mrs. Annot Robinson, went up to London and saw the M.P.s for these divisions in the House of Commons at the time of the second reading of the Electoral Reform Bill.

Over 100 letters from constituents were taken

Estd. 1895. **WICKS'** Estd. 1895

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up to Mr. Neville by Wigan. Letters from about seventy constituents were presented to Mr. Spencer Leigh Hughes by Staleybridge. A memorial, with 130 signatures, was presented to Col. Alan J. Sykes. A letter signed by the local Suffrage Society and ten important constituents were presented to Mr. J. R. Wood, of Staleybridge.

HENDON AND GOLDER'S GREEN.—A very successful meeting of the Hendon and Golder's Green W.S.S. was held on June 5th at the Borough Council Rooms, Hendon. Miss Growse was in the chair, and Miss Sterling (who took the place of Mrs. Corbett Ashby) gave a very clear and interesting address on the Reform Bill and Women's Citizenship.

The resolution as to the need for Women's Franchise in order that they should share in the complicated and important duties and difficulties of reconstruction was unanimously agreed to. It was noted that Mr. Mallaby-Deely, Member for the Borough, had voted with the "Noes" at the Second Reading of the Reform Bill.

Forthcoming Meetings.

JUNE 18.

Birmingham—Bristol Hall—Speaker: Miss Millicent Sturge

JUNE 19.

Birmingham—Lichfield Road School for Mothers—Speaker: Miss Cooper 2.15 p.m.

JUNE 20.

Bristol—Working Party at 40, Park Street 3—5 p.m.

JUNE 21.

Birmingham—Staniforth Hall—Speaker: Miss Kate Palmer 2.15 p.m.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Two very interesting meetings have been arranged by the London Units, one on June 25th, at 5 p.m. at Lady Muir Mackenzie's, 22, Draycott Place, S.W., when the celebrated authority on Russia, Mr. Stephen Graham, will take the chair, and the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield will speak on the work of the London Unit in the Dobrudja.

On June 28th, at 5.15 p.m. at King's College, Strand, with Professor Gilbert Murray, LL.D., D.Litt., as Chairman, the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield will speak on her experiences (lantern slide illustrations), and Mr. A. H. E. Taylor will speak on the present situation in the Balkans.

MONDAY, JUNE 18th, 2.30 p.m.—Orme Girls' School, Newcastle, Staffs—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19th, 3.0 p.m.—New Constitutional Society—Speaker: The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield.

MONDAY, JUNE 25th, 5.0 p.m.—Lady Muir-Mackenzie "At Home"—Speaker: The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield—Chairman: Stephen Graham, Esq.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26th, 3.0 p.m.—American Women's Club—Speaker: The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28th, 5.15 p.m.—Joint meeting of the London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals and the Serbian Society of Great Britain—Speakers: The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, on the Scottish Women's Hospitals work in Rumania (lantern slide illustrations); A. H. E. Taylor, Esq.—Chairman: Professor Gilbert Murray.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30th. Afternoon meeting.—Garden and river party—Formosa, Cookham, Maidenhead—Speaker: The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, on the Scottish Women's Hospitals work for Serbia.

TUESDAY, JULY 3rd, 6.45 p.m.—Christ's Hospital—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.

THURSDAY, JULY 5th, 2.30 p.m.—Garden meeting, Greenwich Observatory—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.

Items of Interest.

A LAUNDRY CHARTER.—By a decision of the Launderers' Association, laundry workers in London have secured a minimum scale of wages. Not a day too soon has the reform been established. In many cases the hours have recently gone up to seventy a week; now they can only go beyond fifty-four by special arrangement.

The new scale is as follows:—

	s.	d.
Under 15 years of age	9	0
Under 16 years of age	11	0
Under 17 years of age	13	6
Under 18 years of age	15	9
Eighteen and over	18	0

Daily hands are to receive not less than 3s. 6d. a day. Learners are to receive 2s. a week less than the scale during a probationary period of six months, but in no case will the starting wage be less than 9s. a week.

This new scale for laundry workers in London is practically equivalent to the establishment of a Trades Board. Outside London there have been many agreements giving a minimum wage to laundry workers, and in London itself for some time past the majority of laundry proprietors have shown a decided opposition to those who gave a sweated rate of pay. The present scale is one offered by one London laundry and subsequently adopted at a specially convened general meeting of the Launderers' Association (Limited) as the official minimum for the London district for weekly workers on the basis of a fifty-four hour week.

TRADES BOARD'S PROPOSAL.—The Shirt-Making Trade Board (Great Britain) are issuing a proposal to vary the minimum rates for female workers from 4d. to 4½d. an hour, and to vary the minimum rates for learners in a substantially similar proportion.

GOLD STRIPE FOR WOUNDED NURSES.—An Army Order just issued gives permission for wounded nurses, as well as officers and soldiers, to wear the stripes of Gold Russia Braid No. 1.

GERMANY'S CALL TO MIDDLE-CLASS WOMEN.—The *Taeglische Rundschau* publishes the following advertisement:—

"The Brandenburg war department is in need of a large increase of women's labour for munition making. It is the patriotic duty of every unoccupied woman to report for the occupation.

"Women of the middle-class hitherto without employment should remember that they can be used in factories for easy work. Women whose work is merely agricultural now or in the past are not allowed in munition factories as they must do agricultural work only."

Volume VIII. of THE

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30	2	3	6	3	12	0
40	3	0	8	6	16	0

All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 14, Great Smith-st., Westminster, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A SERIES OF LECTURES on "The Charter of Christianity," at the Collegium House, 92, St. George's-sq., S.W., every Thursday, at 5.30 p.m. June 21st—Speaker: Mr. Noel Buxton, M.P. Subject: "For International Relations."

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton-st., Piccadilly, W. June 20th, at 8 p.m. "The Balkan States and Constantinople," by Sir Edwin Pears. Chairman: Mrs. Gilbert Samuel.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Public Meeting, Tuesday, June 19th, 5 o'clock, in the New Constitutional Hall, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge. "With the Scottish Women's Hospital in Rumania" (lantern slide illustrations), by the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield. Admission free.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.—Caxton Hall, Westminster, July 6th. President's Birthday Party (sixth year). Reception by Mrs. Despard, at 7 p.m. Entertainment. Speeches, 8.30. Tickets, 6d., from 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

HOSPITALITY.

WOULD anyone offer hospitality to French lady in return for services (help in house, French lessons, or companionship) during summer school holidays? In difficult circumstances owing to war, unable to return to France; glad of small salary if possible.—Box 6,723, COMMON CAUSE Office.

POSITIONS VACANT.

COMPANION-HELP wanted September, undertake duties small non-basement house; one lady; charwoman; salary.—9, Allen's-rd., Southsea, Hants.

WANTED, House Matron for Home for Feeble-minded Girls in Oxford.—Apply Superintendent, 19, New Inn Hall-st., Oxford.

POSITION WANTED.

SECRETARY (female) wishes post; varied experience; excellent references. Salary £200.—Box 6,694, COMMON CAUSE Office.

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FOR SALE.—Valuable Freehold Farm, 46½ acres, farmhouse, excellent buildings, cottage, greenhouse, about 400 choice fruit trees, good gravel pit; station, 1 mile; excellent land, very healthy; good water supply. Bus passes farm. Selling through heavy loss and serious illness caused by lawsuit.—West, Roundshill Farm, Bracknell, Berks.

FOR INFANT WELFARE.

MARLBOROUGH SCHOOL OF MOTHER CRAFT. President, Duchess of Marlborough. Residential training with resident babies for Health Visitors and Voluntary Workers. Five and nine months' course. Specialised training in all modern methods of Hygiene and Physiological Feeding. Next term commences end of September.—Apply to the Director, 29,31, Trebovir-rd., Earl's Court, S.W.

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TWILIGHT SLEEP.—Long-established, high-class Nursing Home is devoting one house to Maternity patients for above. The other house receives rest-cure, convalescent, and other cases, chronic or acute. Skilled nursing, pleasant garden.—St. Faith's, Ealing. Tel. 1485.

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GARDENING FOR WOMEN.—Essentially practical training to suit present crisis; vegetable, fruit, and flower culture, fruit bottling and jam making; healthy out-door life; individual consideration; long or short courses.—Illustrated prospectus of Peake-Ridley, Udimore, near Rye, Sussex.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

GOLD, SILVER, AND BRASS can be cleaned in half the ordinary time by the Ayah Polishing Cloth. This cloth is used by jewellers in restoring lustre to the finest jewellery. No soiling of hands. 1s 3d. post free from The Pioneer Manufacturing Co., 81, Paternoster-sq., London, E.C.

[Continued on page 124

Continued from page 123

SILCOTO (reg.) Plate Powder, for cleaning gold, silver, electro-plate, and all metals; post free, 8d. large dredger. Sample, two stamps.—Silcoto, 45b, Spencer-st., Birmingham. Silver brooch free.

LITERARY.

£50 PRIZE.—Send postage (twopence) for particulars and copy of "How to Make Money With Your Pen" (learn to earn by writing) to Craven Press, 32, Craven-st., Strand, London.

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TRAIN FOR MOTOR TRANSPORT or PRIVATE DRIVING at the BORTHWICK GARAGE, 3, BRICK STREET, PICCADILLY. Special Combination Course for £2 2s. 6d. of 30 hours' practical mechanical work, 11 Lectures, and 3 Driving lessons weekly. Lecture Course (including practical advice) can be taken separately, 2 gns. quarterly; 1 gn. monthly. 5740 Mayfair.

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